



**United States  
Department of  
Agriculture**

**Marketing and  
Regulatory  
Programs**

**Animal and  
Plant Health  
Inspection  
Service**

**Veterinary Services**

**National Center for  
Import and Export**

**4700 River Road  
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**Dear Importers:**

**February 5, 2001**

As you are aware, as of December 7, 2000, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) prohibited the importation of all processed animal proteins and products derived from proteins, regardless of species of origin, from countries that are either affected by bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) or that have an unacceptably high risk for BSE. This was based on findings by the European Union (EU) Scientific Steering Committee that animal feed which was not derived from ruminants has been cross-contaminated with the agent responsible for BSE. It is believed that this cross contamination has prolonged the BSE epidemic in Europe.

However, APHIS has developed specific criteria by which certain animal products of this nature may be eligible for importation. If you wish to be considered for this eligibility please answer the following questions and forward the responses back to this office. If the responses are deemed adequate to preempt any cross contamination issues, certification by the responsible government Agency will be requested. Verification by means of inspection by USDA personnel stationed overseas may also be performed.

1. What is the complete name and address of the foreign facility where your product is processed?
2. What is the name of the material of animal origin that is processed/stored in the facility?
3. What is the species of origin of the material of animal origin that is processed/stored in the facility?
  - a. Who supplies this material? If they receive the raw material from another manufacturer/supplier what else is processed by the other manufacturer/supplier?
  - b. How does that manufacturer/supplier verify that the material has not been cross contaminated with mammalian proteins?
4. Does the facility process or store any of the following materials:
  - a. processed animal proteins ( such as meat and bone meal, meat meal, bone meal , blood meal, dried plasma and other blood products, hydrolyzed proteins, poultry meal, feather meal, fish meal or any similar products),
  - b. offal, tankage, fat, tallow, glands.
5. If so, what is the species of origin of this material?
6. If the facility has discontinued processing or storing this type of material, when did they stop processing or storing them in the facility?



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